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Record

Nov. 30, 2006

Volume 31 No. 16

Washington University in St. Louis

Genome center receives $156 million

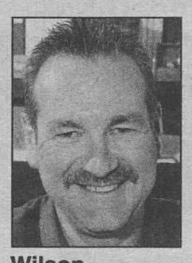
Among the University's largest, the grant supports sequencing cancer genes

By Caroline Arbanas

The Genome Sequencing Center (GSC) at the School of Medicine has been awarded a $156 million, four-year grant to use the powerful tools of DNA sequencing to unlock the secrets of cancer and other human diseases. The grant is among the largest awarded to the University and one of only three given to U.S. sequencing centers by the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) of the National Institutes of Health.

The funds also will be used to improve scientists' understanding of the human genome and to sequence the genomes of non-human primates and microbes.

The three sequencing centers have a proven track record in genome sequencing, which involves spelling out the sequences of letters — A, C, G and T — that make up the genetic codes of all living organisms. The latest funding adds a new dimension to sequencing efforts by focusing on disease genes, particularly those involved in cancer.



Wilson

"The Human Genome Project gave us the blueprint of the human genome, and now we're ready to comb that genome to find genetic changes that underlie the development of cancer and sustain its growth," said Richard K. Wilson, Ph.D., director of the GSC and a leader in the worldwide scientific collaboration that produced the first human genome sequence in 2000. "We strongly believe that a genome-wide understanding of cancer will ultimately lead to the development of new diagnostic tests and more effective treatments."

The grant underscores the expertise of the center, which has been funded by the NHGRI since 1990 and is a world leader in the innovative high-speed sequencing of genomes, from primitive bacteria to complex humans.

"We are extremely proud to once again play a leading role in genome sequencing, this time with a focus on understanding human health and disease," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said.

"At a time when funding for basic research is declining in real dollars, the grant is a tremendous shot in the arm for Washington University," said Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor of medical affairs and dean of the medical school. "It shows that the National Institutes of Health has tremendous confidence in our Genome Sequencing Center to carry out the next phase of genome sequencing, which is likely to dramatically change the way doctors diagnose and treat disease."

Genetic errors, or mutations, are known to accumulate in normal cells, ushering in a transformation that can lead to cancer. An estimated 300 genes involved in cancer

See **Grant**, Page 6

Geologists resurrect Lewis and Clark data, show more flood-prone river

By Tony Fitzpatrick

The Missouri River has markedly narrowed, and its water levels have become more variable during the past 200 years, increasing flood risk. That finding by Robert E. Criss, Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, and alumna Bethany Ehlmann ('04) was reached by interpreting centuries-old data collected by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark on their exploration of the West following the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

Among the researchers' findings is that the river's width at the confluence of the Osage River has narrowed by 475 yards. Such narrowing, or channeling, was created by wing dikes and levees constructed mainly in the 20th century. Because of this, the river cannot spread out as it did naturally at the turn of the 19th century, thus forcing water levels higher, the study authors said. River narrowing also leads to greater fluctuation in day-to-day and seasonal water-level height, which might partly be to blame for declines in wetland vegetation and river wildlife, particularly shallow-water spawning fish and birds nesting on sandbars.

"The contrast is amazing if you compare graphs of river height against time taken in the 19th century versus the 20th century," said Ehlmann, lead author and a Rhodes Scholar who completed the study for her master's degree at Oxford University. "You'd think you were looking at two different rivers. The river today is 'flashy' with rapid up and down jumps in river height. But if you look at data collected by Lewis and Clark in 1804, it matches almost perfectly with the second-oldest data we have, from the 1860s."

The quantitative data that Lewis and Clark collected is solid science that has been overlooked these 200 years, Criss said.

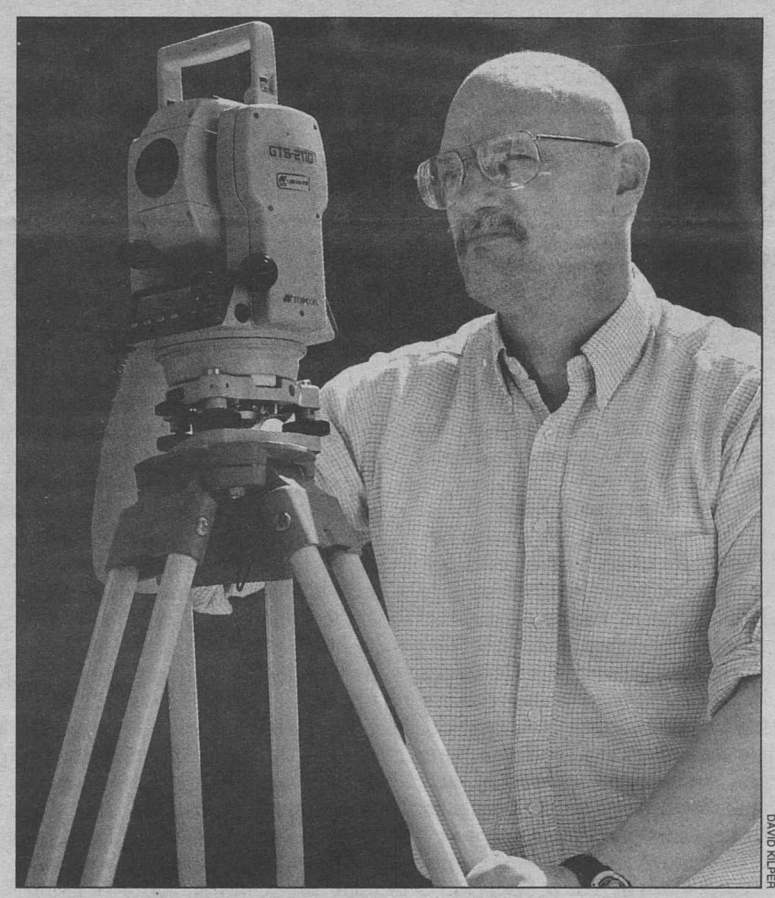
"Every page of their journals is full of numbers and scientific experiments," Criss said. "They did a very fine job of measuring the river."

At their Dubois and Fort Mandan camps, Lewis and Clark put sticks in the river each day and recorded in inches how much the river rose or fell. To measure river width, the explorers used surveying equipment, chains and compasses.

Lewis and Clark measured the Missouri River at St. Charles as 720 yards wide; contemporary U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Geological Survey records show that the width now is just 470 yards, as noted in the paper by Criss and Ehlmann, which was published in the November issue of *Geology*.

Similarly, at the confluence of the Osage River and at Kansas City, Lewis and Clark measured the width of the Missouri as 875 yards and 500 yards, respectively, compared with contemporary readings of 400 yards and 330 yards, respectively.

See **Geologists**, Page 6



DAVID KILPER

Robert E. Criss, Ph.D., analyzed data from the Lewis and Clark expedition and says it shows that the Missouri River today is but a shadow of what it was 200 years ago, narrower and more prone to serious flooding.

University prepares for potential pandemic flu

By Caroline Arbanas

With the growing threat of a pandemic flu, the University is planning for how it would respond if the illness strikes the St. Louis region. A fast-moving, virulent global flu could sicken numerous students, faculty and staff and quickly overwhelm the University's medical clinics.

In Missouri, a worst-case scenario predicts a pandemic flu outbreak could sicken 1.8 million and leave 40,000 dead, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We don't want to cause alarm," said Bruce Backus, assistant vice chancellor for environmental health and safety, who also heads the University's pandemic planning efforts. "But we know a pandemic flu would likely cause major disruptions throughout the University. We need to plan now for these challenges."

A pandemic flu is different from seasonal flu because it occurs when a new strain of influenza emerges that can be spread easily and for which people have no immunity.

This new strain potentially could be a form of the bird flu that also infects people, or it could be a highly contagious human flu virus.

Unlike seasonal flu, which is

See **Flu**, Page 6

Student and 2006 graduate selected as Rhodes Scholars

A current student and a recent alumnus have been named Rhodes Scholars, according to an announcement Nov. 18 by The Rhodes Trust. They are Aaron F. Mertz, 22, and Leana S. Wen, 23.

The two were among 32 U.S. students chosen from 896 nominees for graduate study at the University of Oxford in England. Winners of the highly acclaimed award were selected based on high academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential and physical vigor.

Since the first American scholars were selected in 1904, 25 Washington University students, including Mertz and Wen, have won the Rhodes scholarship, which is the world's oldest international fellowship. Eight have been named in just the past eight years.

Mertz

Wen

Mertz and Wen will be provided two or three years of all-expenses-paid study at Oxford and will begin their studies next fall. They will join approximately 80 Rhodes Scholars selected from around the world. WUSTL is one of only four schools in the nation to win more than one Rhodes scholarship this year.

"I am delighted to see these outstanding and talented students be recognized for their creative and scholarly achievements," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. "They join an esteemed and growing group of Rhodes Scholars associated with Washington University, and we are all very proud of them and what they accomplished at such a young age. They are great representatives of the kind of students we have here, and their recognition reflects the quality of the entire University community."

Mertz is the son of Shirley A.

See **Scholars**, Page 2

Res life's Rob Wild appointed assistant to the chancellor

BY ANDY CLENDENNEN

His affiliation with the University will continue, and he couldn't be happier.

Robert M. Wild, Ph.D., has been appointed as assistant to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, effective Jan. 1.

Wrighton introduced Wild at the monthly University Management Team meeting Nov. 21 at the Charles F. Knight Executive Center.

Wild will succeed Steven J. Givens, who will become associate vice chancellor for public affairs and executive director of University Communications. Givens is taking over for the retiring Judy Jasper Leicht.

Wild

"I'm thrilled about this new opportunity," Wild said. "Washington University has always been a very special place for me, and I am truly honored to be able to serve in this new role working with Mark Wrighton.

"I spent the past seven-and-a-half years working with a very talented group of people in the Office of Residential Life, and I will miss the students and staff in that office very much. But this new job will present many new and exciting challenges, and I'm eager to take on this new opportunity."

Following his appointment, Wild will serve as chief of staff and will be a primary adviser to Wrighton. He will be an ex officio member of the University Council and be intimately involved with dozens of University committees, special events and projects.

"I am very pleased to have Rob join the chancellor's office," Wrighton said. "He has had excellent experiences here and at the University of Wisconsin in terms of leadership contributions, and he understands well our university having been an undergraduate student here. He has demonstrated that he learns new things quickly and works well with people at all levels. Rob is a fine addition to our team and committed to serving the University in a new way, and I look forward to working with him."

Wild's association with WUSTL started in 1989 when he arrived on campus as a freshman — the first time the Rochester, N.Y., native set foot in Missouri.

In his undergraduate years, he worked part time in the Office of the Dean of Students and with the Office of Alumni & Development. He also served as a resident adviser and was an active member of the club rowing team. Four years later, he had earned a double major in biology and in African-American studies, both in Arts & Sciences.

He earned a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin (1996) and a doctorate from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (2005). His doctoral dissertation focused on college-student reactions to 9/11.

Since 2001, Wild has served as associate director of the Office of Residential Life, where he was an active member of the senior Residential Life Leadership Team. He also reshaped the processes for assigning both first-year and upperclass students; increased residential occupancy to 99 percent by improving the efficiency of the room-assignments process; and collaborated with Information Systems to develop a room-assignments software system to improve tracking, reporting and accounting procedures.

In the past five years, Wild has supervised more than 15 residential college directors, helping them develop strong programs in their residential colleges.

He also generated strong partnerships with key campus departments such as University Police, Student Health Services, Orientation, the Judicial Administrator, Residential Technology Services and Undergraduate Admissions; developed a strong protocol for both the residential move-in and move-out processes; assisted in the marketing and expansion of residential life options to include off-campus housing in 10 apartment buildings near campus; and provided oversight for space reservations, administrative staff, publications, Web site management, student employees and all major office operations.

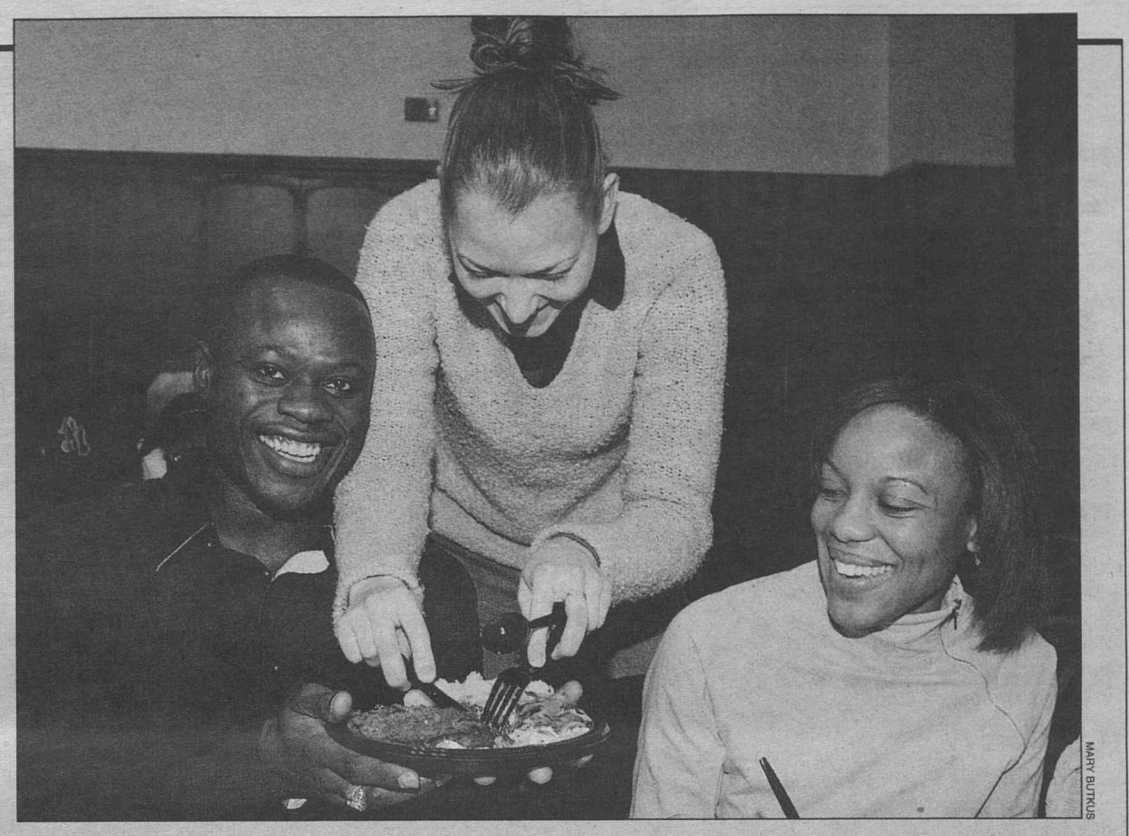
He still managed to find time to serve as the primary academic adviser for 20 undergraduates.

From 1999-2001, Wild was the residential college director at WUSTL's Park/Mudd Residential College; from 1996-99, he was a residential life coordinator at the University of Wisconsin.

Prior to working at Wisconsin, Wild taught sixth-grade math and science and eighth-grade earth science in New York from 1993-95 as part of the Teach For America program. The program left such a strong impression on him that he still serves as an alumni recruiter for Teach For America.

He is a member of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the St. Louis Area College Housing Association, the Missouri College Personnel Association and the University Committee on Alcohol.

He and his wife, Angie Borel Wild (LA '91), live in St. Louis with their three children, Jack (3), Jameson (2) and Henry (1 month).



MARY BUTKUS

Giving thanks (From left) School of Law student Adeyinka Faleti, joint-degree law and social work student Naomi Warren and social work student Valencia Gant joined more than 150 students, faculty and staff at the annual George Warren Brown School of Social Work's Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 19 in Brown Hall Lounge.

Phillips receives American poets fellowship

Poet Carl Phillips, professor of English and of African & African American studies, both in Arts & Sciences, has won the 2006 Academy of American Poets Fellowship, given in memory of James Ingram Merrill.

The fellowship is awarded annually to a poet for distinguished poetic achievement at mid-career and provides a stipend of $25,000. The academy's board of chancellors, a body of 15 eminent poets, elected Phillips.

Phillips

Phillips, 47, read from his work at the Academy of American Poets Awards Ceremony & Reading Nov. 8 in New York.

"These are indelible poems, and the voice in them entirely his own," Academy Chancellor Ellen Bryant Voigt wrote of Phillips' work.

Classical prose writers such as Thucydides, Cicero and Tacitus, as well as the Greek tragedians, were early influences on his work.

Phillips writes that they taught him "a great deal about compression when conveying psychological and emotional crisis."

Phillips admits that he "came very late to modern/contemporary poetry" — he was in his 30s when he began to publish his work. Since then, his collections have been recognized for their emotional engagement with the timeless subjects of desire, loss and myth.

He is the author of numerous books of poetry, including *Riding Westward* (2006) and *Quiver of Arrows: Selected Poems 1986-2006*, forthcoming in spring 2007. His collection *The Rest of Love* (2004) won the Theodore Roethke Memorial Foundation Poetry Prize and the Thom Gunn Award for Gay Male Poetry and was a finalist for the National Book Award.

Other books include *Rock Harbor* (2002); *The Tether* (2001), winner of the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award; *Pastoral* (2000), winner of the Lambda Literary Award; *From the Devotions* (1998), finalist for the National Book Award; *Cortege* (1995), finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; and *In the Blood* (1992), winner of the Samuel French Morse Poetry Prize.

Phillips, who also teaches in The Writing Program in the Department of English, is the author of a book of prose, *Coin of the Realm: Essays on the Art and Life of Poetry* (2004). He translated Sophocles' *Philoctetes* (Oxford University Press, 2003).

His honors include an award in literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Pushcart Prize, induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the Library of Congress.

Phillips earned a bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, in Greek and Latin in 1981 from Harvard University, a master's degree in Latin and classical humanities in 1983 from the University of Massachusetts and a master's degree in creative writing in 1993 from Boston University.

Winter weather information

If a severe snow or ice storm causes the University to alter the normal work and/or class schedules, an announcement will be posted on the University's home page (*wustl.edu*) and a number of media outlets will air an announcement.

Separate announcements will be made regarding the Danforth Campus (which includes all campuses other than the Medical School Campus), evening school classes and the medical school and will apply only to Washington University students, faculty and staff.

Media outlets that air such announcements are KSDK-TV Channel 5, KMOV-TV Channel 4, KTVI-TV Channel 2, KMOX-AM (1120) and WSIE-FM (88.7).

Scholars

Two recipients earn rare opportunity

– from Page 1

and H. Edward Mertz of Palatine, Ill. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics and in American culture studies, both in Arts & Sciences, in May.

Mertz, who was nominated for the Rhodes while at WUSTL, began a doctoral program in physics this fall at Yale University.

He will pursue a master's degree in the history of science, medicine and technology at Oxford.

Mertz, who was a Rhodes Scholar finalist last year, has received numerous national scholarships, including a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, an Astronaut Scholarship, a James Bernard Willett Memorial Scholarship, a ChevronTexaco E&P Scholarship and a Lucent Global Science Scholarship.

The University honored him with an Arthur Holly Compton Fellowship, a Florence Moog Scholarship, a Senior Physics Prize, the Ethan A.H. Shepley Award and the Robert N. Varney Prize.

Mertz has done physics research in the Laboratory for Space Sciences in Arts & Sciences; the Neutron Science Center at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, N.M.; the Gamma-Ray Astronomy Group at the Max-Planck-Institut für Extraterrestrische Physik in Garching, Germany; and the Division of Microfluidics at Lucent Technologies Bell Labs in Murray Hill, N.J.

On campus, Mertz served as a two-term president of the Arts & Sciences Council; co-founder and editor-in-chief of *Apex*, the interdisciplinary journal of undergraduate scholarship; and a representative to the Board of Trustees.

Mertz was an active cellist in St. Louis, founding the Florence Piano Trio, playing in Quartet Aria at campus receptions and area weddings and performing in the Washington University Symphony and Chamber orchestras. In his spare time, he attends classical-music concerts, runs, hikes and participates in contra dancing.

While at WUSTL, Mertz was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society, the Meteoritical Society, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists and the Delta Phi Alpha National German Honorary Society.

Wen, a native of Shanghai, China, is the daughter of Ying Sandy Zhang and Xiaolu Wen of Temple City, Calif.

She is a fourth-year student at the School of Medicine. Wen entered California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) when she was 13, earning a bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, in biochemistry in 2001 at the age of 18.

Wen, a Rhodes Scholar finalist last year, will pursue a master's degree in global health science at Oxford.

Wen was on leave last year from the medical school to serve a one-year term as national president of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) in Reston, Va., the largest independent national organization of physicians-in-training to improve medical education and healthcare.

A seven-year member of AMSA, she was elected a member of the organization's board of trustees three times.

As president, her duties included representing 65,000 physicians-in-training, conducting leadership training for 125 national leaders and overseeing a $3.5 million budget.

Wen also recently served as a Global Health Fellow at the World Health Organization in Geneva, researching trade policies and access to medicines and as a Department of Defense David L. Boren Fellow working on conflict and HIV in Kigali, Rwanda.

She was recently appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to be a member of the Council on Graduate Medical Education, which advises Congress on physician workforce and medical education.

Additionally, Wen has received the medical school's Dames Prize in Physiology, a James E. Slater Award from the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society, a Katherine E. Carter Award in Scientific Writing, the CSULA Raul Henderson Eagle Pride Award in Service and Leadership and a National Institutes of Health Fogarty Minority International Research Training Fellowship.

She has also received an Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Research Fellowship and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Biomedical Professional Development Scholarship.

"Aaron and Leana are fully deserving of the extraordinary opportunity and honor that a Rhodes scholarship constitutes," said Ian MacMullen, Ph.D., an assistant dean and director of scholarships in Arts & Sciences. "It has been a great pleasure to work with them, and I wish them the very best of luck at Oxford University and in their careers."

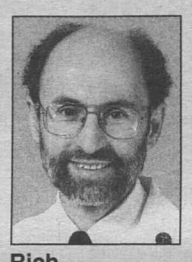
School of Medicine Update

Elderly patients' heart failure gauged for seriousness

BY GWEN ERICSON

A simple points system may soon help guide treatment of elderly heart failure patients, thanks to new School of Medicine research.

The researchers found that by counting how many of seven easy-to-obtain health factors an elderly heart-failure patient has, physicians can estimate the patient's risk of dying.



Rich

The points system may steer doctors toward considering more aggressive treatments such as implantable defibrillators and pacemakers for those at low risk of death. However, elderly patients with a high risk of death may want to avoid stressful and unnecessary medical intervention and could benefit most from palliative or hospice care.

"It has typically been very difficult to predict how long a person hospitalized with heart failure may survive," said senior author Michael W. Rich, M.D., associate professor of medicine and a geriatric cardiologist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. "That has made it hard for the treating physician to know how aggressive to be with therapy."

Heart failure afflicts about 5 million people in the United States, hospitalizing more than 1 million patients each year. The incidence of heart failure increases with age, and with people 65 and older becoming the fastest-growing segment of the population, the personal and financial burden of heart failure likely will increase.

In their study, which followed 282 elderly heart-failure patients for as many as 14 years, the researchers identified seven factors that most affect patient survival:

- advanced age
- a history of dementia (contributes to a host of conditions related to the inability to properly care for oneself)
- coronary artery disease (arteries that supply blood to the heart muscle are hardened and narrowed)
- peripheral vascular disease (similar to coronary artery disease but involving blood vessels outside the heart and brain)
- low sodium in the blood (an indication of neurohormonal imbalance)
- high urea in the blood (a reflection of poor cardiac output that affects kidney function)
- low blood pressure (a result of weakened heart function)

> **"It has typically been very difficult to predict how long a person hospitalized with heart failure may survive. That has made it hard for the treating physician to know how aggressive to be with therapy. … If the system can be validated by further studies, it can play a role in helping physicians tailor care to individual patients."**
>
> MICHAEL W. RICH

The study, published in a recent issue of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, showed that patients with four or more of the risk factors had a low probability of surviving longer than six months. But if patients had none or just one of the factors, they had a good chance of living five years or more. Patients with two to three factors were likely to live at least a year. The patients in the study received a variety of treatments as determined by their physicians.

"The system is easy to use, and the variables don't require any specialized testing — they are part of routine medical histories or basic lab tests," Rich said. "If the system can be validated by further studies, it can play a role in helping physicians tailor care to individual patients. If a person has a limited life expectancy, it may not be in his or her best interest to recommend invasive, uncomfortable or risky procedures. On the other hand, an elderly person with only one risk factor could potentially be considered a good candidate for an aggressive treatment such as a defibrillator."

Other factors that might have been expected to affect survival, such as the amount of blood the heart can eject during pumping or a patient's body mass index, didn't seem to influence survival times. Rich emphasized that each of the factors identified has been linked in previous studies to poor prognosis in heart failure patients.

"We didn't find any new risk factors, which means there's good data to support that these factors truly are predictive," Rich said. "We've pinpointed the seven that are the most predictive and shown that the number of risk factors can give a reasonable estimate of the probability of living for six, 12 or 60 months."

ROBERT BOSTON

Explosive reaction (from left) Jennifer Elam, a postdoctoral research scholar in molecular microbiology, shows how metals react with acid to form hydrogen gas to Brittney Andrews from Gateway IT High School and Rhonda Jones, Keiara Crisp and Shakeyla Kimble, all from Vashon High School. The students were at the University to attend Women in Science Day Nov. 7, during which about 100 female high school students from six different St. Louis city schools toured the campuses, participated in hands-on activities and got advice on careers in science. The day was hosted by the Young Scientist Program and the Association for Women in Science and partially funded by a Midwest Rural-Urban Girls Collaborative Mini-Grant Award.

Longer Life Foundation brings in visiting scholar, awards grants

BY JIM DRYDEN

On Nov. 30, the Longer Life Foundation, a cooperative effort between the School of Medicine and the Reinsurance Group of America, will welcome its first Longer Life Foundation Visiting Scholar, Steven N. Blair, professor in the departments of exercise science and epidemiology and biostatistics at the Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, and executive lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology, Health Promotion and Recreation at the University of North Texas.

Blair, past-president of the American College of Sports Medicine, studies the associations between lifestyle and health with a specific emphasis on exercise, physical fitness, body composition and chronic disease.

The Longer Life Foundation also has a new director. Samuel Klein, M.D., the Danforth Professor of Medicine and Nutritional Science and professor of cell biology and physiology, has succeeded Edwin Fisher, Ph.D., who is now on the faculty at the University of North Carolina's School of Public Health.

This year the foundation, which funds independent research studying ways to improve methods for predicting long-term mortality from various diseases or for promoting quality and quantity of life, awarded a grant to Luigi Fontana, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine, to study the effects of calorie restriction on markers of aging and longevity.

Julie A. Margenthaler, M.D., assistant professor of surgery, received a grant to study minimally invasive staging of the axilla in breast cancer. Anthony J. Muslin, M.D., professor of medicine and of molecular and cellular biology, received a grant to study the effects of a particular genotype on longevity and health, especially as it affects cardiovascular health.

Fisher continues to receive funding for an ongoing study of the effects of social support on health and longevity, particularly involving diabetes and certain types of cancer.

The call for grant applications for 2007 will occur in February with a March deadline for those proposals.

Fulbright Scholar from Rwanda studies HIV disorders at WUSTL

BY BETH MILLER

Eugene Mutimura, a lecturer at the Kigali Health Institute in Rwanda, is spending five months at the School of Medicine learning how to improve care for his fellow countrymen who suffer from the metabolic syndromes associated with HIV and AIDS.

Mutimura works with Kevin E. Yarasheski, Ph.D., associate professor of medicine, of cell biology and physiology and of physical therapy, and W. Todd Cade, Ph.D., instructor in physical therapy and medicine, learning several clinical research techniques that he will take back to the institute.

Mutimura will give a talk titled "Perspectives on the Impact of HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa: Insights Into Collaborative Efforts to Combat the Scourge," at noon Dec. 1 — World AIDS Day — in the Cori Auditorium in the McDonnell Medical Science Building at the medical school.

About 5 percent of all Rwandans are infected with HIV, Mutimura said, although estimates are higher in women, youth and adults in their 30s. The disease is also more prevalent in urban areas, he said.

In addition to antiretroviral treatments, the World Health Organization's first-line treatment regimen, Mutimura and his colleagues are involved in research to assess whether lifestyle modifications, such as exercise training and dietary modifications, can improve metabolic abnormalities in patients with HIV who are being treated with antiretroviral therapies. This is part of his objective of the Fulbright scholarship.

While the medications have resulted in tremendous improvements in morbidity and mortality in individuals with HIV, they have serious side effects, including insulin resistance, high blood cholesterol and blood fats, an increase in fat in the abdomen and a loss of fat in the arm, legs, buttocks and face, known as HIV lipodystrophy syndrome.

The physical abnormalities contribute to further stigma in patients with HIV in Rwanda and other African countries where there are communal economic and social activities and the societies are more culturally sensitive.

In addition, those side effects can translate into accelerated heart disease and diabetes, Cade said.

> **"It's important that this becomes a cornerstone to train others and form new, wider partnerships."**
>
> EUGENE MUTIMURA

Among the clinical research techniques Mutimura is learning at the medical school is the euglycemic hyperinsulinemic clamp technique, which Yarasheski said is "the gold standard" for quantifying glucose metabolism in humans.

"The clamp technique requires investigator oversight and frequent blood sampling over a six- or seven-hour period," Yarasheski said. "But it's straightforward enough that it could be done in Rwanda without consuming a lot of resources."

Mutimura, a doctoral candidate at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, also is learning to use dual energy X-ray absorptiometry and magnetic resonance imaging to see where a patient stores fat on the body, which is a good determination of the extent of the metabolic effects of HIV and the antiretroviral drugs.

He also will study the impact of exercise training on the same patients.

The Fulbright scholarship has a wider impact than the opportunity for him to study at the University for five months, Mutimura pointed out.

"The program will help not only me," he said. "It's important that this becomes a cornerstone to train others and form new, wider partnerships."

Mutimura said he hopes to establish a collaboration between the University and Rwandan medical and allied health professional schools such as the Kigali Health Institute.

"My most important objective is a partnership that is aimed at enhancing research and collaboration in training," Mutimura said. "Rwandan students could come to the School of Medicine for training, and both medical students and investigators could come to Rwanda to improve research programs, which would benefit their professional experiences."

University Events

'[Grid<>Matrix]' explores digital media at Kemper

BY LIAM OTTEN

The grid — a simple arrangement of individual elements into perpendicular lines — is a familiar and fundamental pattern, a cornerstone of urban planning and industrial production.

Yet in recent years, use of the three-dimensional matrix — an essential element of digital media — has extended the grid into new and often unpredictable dimensions, reshaping our daily experience of culture, communication and self-expression.

[Grid<>Matrix], on view through Dec. 31 in the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery, investigates both ruptures and continuities between the grid and the matrix, exploring how these two distinct yet related modes of visual organization have influenced our understanding of aesthetics, art and media since the early 20th century.

Drawn from private collections and major museums, *[Grid<> Matrix]* is curated by Sabine Eckmann, Ph.D., museum director and chief curator, and Lutz Koepnick, Ph.D., professor of German and of film and media studies, both in Arts & Sciences.

It includes work by 15 artists, ranging from classical modernists such as Piet Mondrian, Theo van Doesburg and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy to major mid-century artists such as Dan Flavin, Agnes Martin, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol to important contemporary figures like Albert Oehlen, Julius Popp and Jeffrey Shaw.

Early use of the grid — in paintings such as van Doesburg's "Composition VII: The Three Graces" (1917) and Mondrian's "Composition of Red and White" (1938-1942) — often reflects a sense of technological possibility while emphasizing the purity and autonomy of the abstract image.

DAVID KILPER

"Bit.Fall" (2001-05) by Julius Popp (German, b. 1973), an installation with water, pump, magnetic valves and electronic circuits, is on view through Dec. 31 in the exhibition *[Grid<>Matrix]* at the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum.

By contrast, Warhol's silkscreen canvas "Twenty Blue Green Maos" (1979) and Flavin's fluorescent light sculpture "Untitled (in honor of Leo at the 30th anniversary of his gallery)" (1987) employ the grid as a means of introducing industrial processes and materials into the sphere of high art.

The grid continues to play an important role in computer-based work such as digital photography, which subdivides images into grids of individual pixels. Yet it is the matrix — which sets the modernist grid into motion — that has become truly emblematic of current digital culture. For example, Shaw's "The Legible City" (1988-1991) uses plans for actual cities to create a virtual structure composed of words and letters and broadcast onto large screens through which visitors navigate by "riding" an interactive stationary bicycle.

Other contemporary artists employ the matrix to highlight the immaterial, the ephemeral and the passage of time. Oehlen's "The Annihilator" (2001/06) combines matrix-based patterns with freehand painterly gestures to explore affinities between abstract painting and digital technology. Popp's "Bit.Fall" (2001-05) employs water droplets and a complex, computer-controlled valve system to create an enormous, ever-changing water wall of frequently used Internet search terms.

In conjunction with *[Grid<>Matrix]*, Christiane Paul, adjunct curator of new media arts at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, will speak on "Grid vs. Network: Aesthetics of New Media Spaces" at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 in Brown Hall, Room 100.

Also on view in the Special Exhibitions Gallery is *Models and Prototypes*, which investigates the growing importance of the model as a visual strategy since the early 20th century.

As Western art has moved away from straightforward depictions of the natural universe, models and prototypes have evolved from preparatory steps in the creative process to become increasingly autonomous works of art, redefining artistic practice.

Drawn predominantly from the permanent collection, the exhibition is organized by Catharina Manchanda, Ph.D., museum curator, and arranged in three sections: Conceptual Models, The Multiple as Model and Structural Models. In all, it features 34 works by 25 artists, ranging from modernist pioneers such as Le Corbusier, Marcel Duchamp and Wassily Kandinsky to major contemporary figures such as Daniel Buren, Isa Genzken, Jenny Holzer, Joseph Kosuth and Edward Ruscha.

Conceptual Models, which emerged as an outgrowth of abstraction, are typically characterized by the use of ordering systems, often derived from mathematics, language or other visual signs. For example, Alfred Jensen's "Great Mystery I: The Origin of the Chinese Decimal System" (1960) is based on the "divine" Lo Shu diagram, while Hannah Weiner's "Signal Flag Poems" (1968) draws on the communication system for ships at sea.

The Multiple as Model highlights works by artists who questioned the validity of the original artwork. Examples include Duchamp's "Pocket Chess Set" (1944), one of a series of editioned pieces that followed his influential ready-made objects, and Joseph Beuys' "Noiseless Blackboard Eraser" (1974), an editioned ready-made from his famous "Energy Plan for the Western Man" lecture tour.

The final section, Structural Models, hinges on the use and/or deconstruction of architectural or topographic forms, as in Genzken's "Little Crazy Column" and "Bill II" (2001 and 2002), which recall modernist skyscrapers, and Katrin Sigurdardottir's "The Green Grass of Home" (1997), which conflates the parks of her native Reykjavik, Iceland, with spaces in San Francisco and Berkeley, Calif., and New York. Other examples include Joseph Cornell's assemblage boxes of the 1940s, as well as proposals by Mark Bennett and Claes Oldenburg that bridge real and imagined spaces.

Both *[Grid<>Matrix]* and *Models and Prototypes* are free and open to the public. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The museum is closed Tuesdays.

For information, call 935-4523 or e-mail kemperartmuseum@wustl.edu.

'Apocalypto' • Art Fair • 'Hawaii Paradise' • Madrigal Feaste

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Nov. 30-Dec. 13 at Washington University. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Danforth Campus (calendar.wustl.edu) *and the School of Medicine* (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).

Exhibitions

Caught! Modern Dance Photographs by Barbara Morgan. Through Dec. 21. Olin Library, Lvl. 1, Ginkgo Rm. 935-5495.

Eyes on the Prize 1 & 2: Documenting the Civil Rights Movement. Through Dec. 21. Olin Library, Lvl. 1, Grand Staircase Lobby. 935-8679.

Film

Friday, Dec. 1

6 & 8:30 p.m. Travel Lecture Series Presentation. *Hawaii Paradise.* Dennis Burkhart, dir. Graham Chapel. For cost, call 935-5212.

Saturday, Dec. 2

7 p.m. Screening. *Apocalypto.* Mel Gibson, dir. Brown Hall, Rm. 100. 935-4056.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

7:30 p.m. Screening. *Pan's Labyrinth.* Guillermo del Toro, dir. Brown Hall, Rm. 100. 935-4056.

Friday, Dec. 8

7:30 p.m. Sam Fox School Presentation. *The Matrix.* Brown Hall, Rm. 100. 935-4523.

Lectures

Thursday, Nov. 30

Noon. Genetics Seminar Series. "Molecular Genetic Analysis of K Channel Diversity and Functioning in the Mammalian Heart." Jeanne Nerbonne, Alumni Endowed Professor of Molecular Biology & Pharmacology. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

2:30 p.m. Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Seminar. "Models and Simulations of Anomalous Diffusion on Fractal Structures." Shaun Sellers, instructor in mechanical & aerospace engineering. Jolley Hall, Rm. 305. 935-6047.

4 p.m. Chemistry Seminar. "Rare Isotopes and the Advanced Exotic Beam Laboratory." Robert Janssens, Argonne National Lab., Ill. McMillen Lab., Rm. 311. 935-6530.

4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences Colloquium. "Was There an Inner Solar System Impact Cataclysm 4 Ga Ago?" Timothy Swindle, prof. of cosmochemistry, U. of Az. Earth & Planetary Sciences Bldg., Rm. 203. 935-5610.

7:30 p.m. Sam Fox School Lecture. Christiane Paul, adjunct curator, Whitney Museum of American Art. Brown Hall, Rm. 100. 935-4523.

Friday, Dec. 1

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Women's Health CME Course. "The Intersection of Medicine and Psychology in Women." Cost: $160 for physicians, $110 for allied health professionals. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6891.

10:30 a.m. Boeing Center for Technology, Information, and Manufacturing Operations and Manufacturing Management Seminar. "Effects of Demand, Cost, and Capacity Information Asymmetry." Izak Duenyas, John Psarouthakis Research Professor of Manufacturing Management, U. of Mich. Simon Hall, Rm. 241. 935-5577.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Assembly and Destruction of von Willebrand Factor: A Mobile Adhesive Protein." J. Evan Sadler, prof. of medicine. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-7437.

2-9 p.m. World AIDS Day Conference. "Reducing Stigma, Enhancing Knowledge, Building Stronger Partnerships." Cosponsored by the AIDS Clinical Trials Unit. Missouri Historical Society. 534-9251.

Saturday, Dec. 2

7:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Cardiology CME Course. "Congestive Heart Failure Update." Cost: $95. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6891.

Monday, Dec. 4

11 a.m. Computer Science & Engineering and Electrical & Systems Engineering Joint Seminar. "Mathematical Parallels Between Packet Switching and Information Transmission." Tony Lee, prof. of information engineering, Chinese U. of Hong Kong. Cupples II Hall, Rm. 217. 935-5565.

Noon. Work, Families and Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series. "Defining and Measuring Time Spent in Household Management: Implications for Forensic Economics." Anne Winkler, prof. of economics and public policy administration, U. of Mo., St. Louis. Eliot Hall, Rm. 300. 935-4918.

4 p.m. Condensed Matter/Materials & Biological Physics Seminar. "Brownian Motors from Biology to Quantum Electronics." Heiner Linke, prof. of condensed matter physics & biophysics, U. of Ore. (3:45 p.m. coffee) Compton Hall, Rm. 241. 935-6276.

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "The Regulation of Inflammation and Pathogenesis in the Central Nervous System." John Russell, prof. of molecular biology & pharmacology. Farrell Learning & Teaching Center, Connor Aud. 362-2763.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity & Arrhythmia Center Seminar Series. "Molecular Mechanisms Controlling K Channel Diversity and Functioning in the Heart." Jeanne Nerbonne, Alumni Endowed Professor of Molecular Biology & Pharmacology. (5 p.m. reception) Whitaker Hall Aud. 935-7887.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Architecture Lecture Series. Eva Prats, architect, Flores/Prats Architects, Barcelona. Whitaker Hall Aud. 935-9300.

Tuesday, Dec. 5

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Two-day Workshop. "The Politics of IT Project Management." (Continues 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 6.) Cost: $1,195; reduced fees available for CAIT member organizations. CAIT, 5 N. Jackson Ave. To register: 935-4444.

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "Network Topology in Signal Transduction." Norbert Perrimon, prof. of genetics, Harvard U. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Aud. 747-2630.

Noon. Program in Physical Therapy Research Seminar. 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Lower Lvl., Rm. B108. 286-1400.

5:30 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Biophysical Evenings Seminar. "Nickel Transporters and Transcriptional Regulators." Peter Chivers, asst. prof. of biochemistry & molecular biophysics. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

7 p.m. Skandalaris Center Entrepreneurship Symposium. (Reception follows.) Simon Hall, May Aud. 935-7668.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

4 p.m. Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences "Frontiers in Human Pathobiology" Lecture Series. "Obesity." Samuel Klein, Danforth Professor of Medicine. Farrell Learning & Teaching Center, Holden Aud. 362-4806.

4 p.m. Physics Colloquium. "Superconductivity, Close to its Centennial." N.W. Ashcroft, prof. of atomic and solid state physics, Cornell U. (3:30 p.m. coffee. Compton Hall, Rm. 245.) Crow Hall, Rm. 204. 935-6276.

Thursday, Dec. 7

Noon. Genetics Seminar Series. "Transcription, Biosensors and Fluorescence." Tomasz Heyduk, prof. of biochemistry & molecular biology, St. Louis U. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar. "Cytokines, Chemokines and Co-receptors, Their Role in Herpetic Keratitis, a Story in Progress." Patrick Stuart, research asst. prof. of ophthalmology & visual science. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

Friday, Dec. 8

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Combining Viral and Immune Cell Therapy in the Treatment of Cancer." Stephen Thorne, research assoc. in pediatrics and Bio-X program, Stanford U. 362-5104.

Monday, Dec. 11

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Two-day Workshop. "Writing Skills for IT Professionals." (Continues 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 12.) Cost: $820; reduced fees

Student dancers, faculty works featured

BY LIAM OTTEN

Washington University Dance Theatre (WUDT), the annual showcase of professionally choreographed works performed by student dancers, will present *BODYMIND/Art of Movement*, its 2006 concert, Dec. 1-3 in Edison Theatre.

Performances — sponsored by the Performing Arts Department (PAD) in Arts & Sciences — begin at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

BODYMIND will feature nearly 50 dancers, selected by audition, performing seven works by faculty and guest choreographers.

"People often think of the body and the mind as separate entities," said Cecil Slaughter, lecturer in dance and director of WUDT. "But in dance, you don't have that division. Dancers and choreographers actually think and conceptualize their work through the body. Movement becomes a kind of grammar or language — a form of communication between dancer and audience.

"All of the works on the program are very different, yet they also play off of one another," Slaughter added. "The idea of community forms a kind of common thread between them — the individual within a community or exiled from a community or causing or responding to turmoil within it. As artistic director, it's been very exciting to see these pieces come together."

A highlight of the concert will be the St. Louis debut of Martha Graham's modern classic "Steps in the Street." Excerpted from *Chronicle* (1936), Graham's celebrated response to the Spanish Civil War, "Steps in the Street" includes 15 dancers and was set earlier this semester by a pair of visiting artists, Gary Galbraith and Bonnie Oda Homsey, both former principal dancers with the Martha Graham Dance Company.

"Like Picasso's 'Guernica' (unveiled the following year), 'Steps in the Street' is a modernist expression of horror at the devastation of war, including homelessness and exile," noted Mary-Jean Cowell, associate professor and coordinator of the Dance Program, who served as rehearsal director for the piece. "There's an angular, twisted quality to some of the movements. It's all about tension and anger and the resolve that this will not happen again.

"It's also been a great experience for students," Cowell added, "both in terms of learning Graham's choreography and in terms of finding the appropriate energy and imagery within themselves."

Also featured on the program is "Hallowed Be Thy Name," an original ballet-influenced work for eight dancers by David Curwen, associate professor of dance at Western Michigan University and artistic director of The Western Dance Project. Curwen, who served as a visiting artist in September, sets this tapestry of family, religion and violence to a mixture of early American music and 17th-century English country dances.

Tickets are $15, $9 for students, senior citizens and faculty and staff, and are available through the Edison Theatre Box Office. For more information, call 935-6543.

DAVID KILPER

Seventeen student dancers will perform "Psychopomp" directed by Cecil Slaughter, lecturer in dance and Washington University Dance Theatre director, in *BODYMIND/Art of Movement* Dec. 1-3 at Edison Theatre. Other works on the program include dances choreographed by Mary-Jean Cowell, David Marchant, Christine Knoblauch-O'Neal and Asha Prem.

Wheeler to read from works Nov. 30

Poet and novelist Susan Wheeler will read from her work as part of the The Writing Program Reading Series at 8 p.m. Nov. 30. The reading, sponsored by The Writing Program in Arts & Sciences, will be in Hurst Lounge, Room 201 Duncker Hall.

Wheeler is the author of four poetry collections: *Bag 'o' Diamonds* (1993), *Smokes* (1998), *Source Codes* (2001) and *Ledger* (2005). Her work has appeared in eight editions of *The Best American Poetry*, as well as in such journals as *The Paris Review, New American Writing, Talisman* and *The New Yorker*.

Wheeler's novel, *Record Palace* (2005), was praised by Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison as "an astonishment," adding, "Susan Wheeler's deft touch and flawless ear have produced an irresistible work, both fresh and sage."

Bag 'o' Diamonds received the Norma Farber First Book Award of the Poetry Society of America and was short-listed for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award. *Smokes* won the Four Way Books Award.

Other honors include the Witter Bynner Prize for Poetry from the American Academy of Arts & Letters and fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

Wheeler grew up in Minnesota and New England and has lived in the New York area for 20 years. She is on the creative writing faculties of Princeton University and the New School's graduate program and has taught at the University of Iowa, New York University, Rutgers University and Columbia University.

The reading is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-7130.

Sports

Volleyball team loses in national title match

The No. 2 volleyball team ended its season with a 3-2 loss to No. 1 Juniata College in the NCAA championship match Nov. 18.

After dropping the first game 30-27, the Bears rallied with 30-20 and 30-22 wins in Games 2 and 3. Washington U. led 22-18 in the fourth frame, but Juniata rallied for a 30-27 win to force a fifth game. In the decisive stanza, Juniata prevailed, 15-10.

Junior middle hitter Emilie Walk (17 kills, 11 blocks) and senior middle hitter Whitney Smith (15 kills, eight blocks) were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Women's soccer loses in sectional semis

The No. 6 women's soccer team ended its season Nov. 18 in a 2-1 loss to No. 24 Washington and Lee University in the NCAA Sectional Semifinals in Norfolk, Va.

Washington and Lee (19-1-2) took a 1-0 lead in the 31st minute. The goal scored against the Bears (17-3) was the first in eight games.

Washington and Lee moved ahead 2-0 seven minutes into the second half before WUSTL sophomore Caitlin Malone scored.

Women runners fourth at NCAA championships

The women's cross country team took fourth at the NCAA Championships Nov. 18 in Ohio. The women tallied 186 points, placing two runners on the All-America Team. The WUSTL men's squad placed 25th with 585 points.

Senior Beth Herndon wrapped up her cross-country career by tying the top individual NCAA Championships performance in WUSTL history. Herndon took fifth to earn her second All-America citation, finishing the 6K run in 22:56. Junior Tricia Frisella (22nd) was also an All-American.

Senior Kevin Gale turned in the top performance for the Bears' men, finishing 71st.

Men's basketball wins Babson Invitational

Junior forward Troy Ruths earned MVP honors as the men's basketball team (3-1) claimed the 2006 Babson Invitational Tournament presented by Irving Oil with a 79-71 win against Colby College.

The Bears opened the season Nov. 17 with a 79-74 win against Vassar College.

The Bears then beat Blackburn College Nov. 21, 78-43, and on Nov. 26, No. 24 Augustana College beat the Bears, 75-73

Men's, women's swimming 2nd at invite

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams swam well at the WUSTL Thanksgiving Invitational at Millstone Pool.

The men and women each placed second of four teams.

Kelly Kono paced the women; Kevin Leckey led the men.

Women's hoops falls to DePauw, Central

The women's basketball team opened the season with two losses. On Nov. 17, WUSTL fell to No. 5 DePauw University, 75-68. The Bears led, 36-32, at halftime but could not hold on for the win.

On Nov. 18, WUSTL fell to Central College, 80-69. Senior forward Rebecca Parker paced the Bears with 15 points and 14 rebounds. The team rebounded with two wins, defeating Blackburn, 102-39, and Hanover College, 73-45, to win the consolation game of the McWilliams Classic.

available for CAIT member organizations. CAIT, 5 N. Jackson Ave. To register: 935-4444.

11 a.m. Midwest Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Guest Lecture. "SARS in China: Lessons Learned." James Maguire, prof. and head of international health, U. of Md. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Erlanger Aud. 286-0432.

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "The Regulation of V(D)J Recombination." Mark Schlissel, prof. of molecular & cell biology, U. of Calif., Berkeley. Farrell Learning & Teaching Center, Connor Aud. 362-2763.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Architecture Lecture Series. "KM3 and After." Winy Maas, principal architect, MVRDV Architects, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Whitaker Hall Aud. 935-9300.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "Bistability and the Regulation of Competence in *Bacillus subtilis*." David Dubnau, prof. of microbiology & molecular genetics, Public Health Research Inst., Newark, N.J. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 935-7888.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

8:30 a.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Executive & Management Forum. "Big Business Impact Through Next Generation Mobile Solutions." Dave Hoyt, corporate v.p. of strategy & solution delivery, Daugherty Business Solutions. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 935-4444.

4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar. "Bacterial Reprogramming of Eukaryotic Cell Biochemistry." Erec Stebbins, assoc. prof. of structural microbiology, Rockefeller U. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

Music

Thursday, Nov. 30

7 p.m. Concert. "Madrigal Feaste." More Fools than Wise. (also 7 p.m. Dec. 1.) Umrath Hall Lounge. For cost and tickets: fools@sugroups.wustl.edu.

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. William Lenihan, guitar. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Saturday, Dec. 2

8 p.m. Concert. *My Eyes/Your Eyes* by Martin Kennedy, asst. prof. of music. Washington University Concert Choir. John Stewart, dir. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Tuesday, Dec. 5

8 p.m. Student Recital. Students in the Dept. of Music. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

8 p.m. Concert. Washington University Jazz Band. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Thursday, Dec. 7

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Phil Dunlap, piano, and his trio. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Friday, Dec. 8

8 p.m. Washington University Opera. "In Women's Chambers." Excerpts from operas by Britten, Susa and Adamo. (Also 8 p.m. Dec. 9.) Umrath Hall Lounge. 935-4841.

Saturday, Dec. 9

8 p.m. Concert. Kingsbury Ensemble. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Sunday, Dec. 10

3 p.m. "Messiah" Sing-along. John Stewart, dir. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Monday, Dec. 11

8 p.m. Concert. Flute Choir. Jan Smith, dir. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

8 p.m. Concert. Chamber Ensembles. Elizabeth Macdonald, dir. Women's Bldg. Formal Lounge. 935-4841.

On Stage

Friday, Dec. 1

8 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. presentation. *BODYMIND/Art of Movement.* Cecil Slaughter, artistic dir. (Also 8 p.m. Dec. 2 and 2 p.m. Dec 3.) Cost: $15, $9 for students, seniors, children, faculty & staff. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Sports

Friday, Dec. 1

8 p.m. Men's basketball vs. Luther College. Lopata Classic. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Saturday, Dec. 9

7 p.m. Women's basketball vs. McKendree College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

6 p.m. Women's basketball vs. Maryville U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

8 p.m. Men's basketball vs. Maryville U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

And more...

Thursday, Nov. 30

8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series. Susan Wheeler, author and poet. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

Saturday, Dec. 2

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Buder Center for American Indian Research Native Art Fair and Silent Auction. Goldfarb Hall Commons. 935-4510.

Sunday, Dec. 3

2 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Tour. Featuring current special exhibitions. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

Tuesday, Dec. 5

7 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Conversation Series. *[Grid<>Matrix].* Sabine Eckmann, dir., Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum; and Lutz Koepnick, prof. of German and of film & media studies. (6:30 p.m. reception) Kemper Art Museum. RSVP to 935-4523.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

3-8 p.m. Annual Campus Store Faculty & Staff Appreciation Event. Mallinckrodt Student Center, Campus Store. 935-5580.

Thursday, Dec. 7

5:30 p.m. Skandalaris Center Event. IdeaBounce. (Reception follows.) Simon Hall, May Aud. For information and to register: *sc.wustl.edu.*

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Artist Talk. Tom Friedman. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

Friday, Dec. 8

1 p.m. Skandalaris Center Event. Innovators & Entrepreneurs Workshop. (Reception follows.) Simon Hall. For information and to register: *sc.wustl.edu.*

Sunday, Dec. 10

2 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Tour. Featuring current special exhibitions. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

Record

Founded in 1905
Washington University community news

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Record (USPS 600-430; ISSN 1043-0520), Volume 31, Number 16/Nov. 30, 2006. Published for the faculty, staff and friends of Washington University. Produced weekly during the school year, except school holidays, and monthly during June, July and August by the Office of Public Affairs, Washington University, Campus Box 1070, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130. Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO.

Where to send address changes

Postmaster and nonemployees: Record, Washington University, Campus Box 1070, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Employees: Office of Human Resources, Washington University, Campus Box 1184, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Flu

Both campuses prepare for possible outbreak

– from Page 1

more likely to cause death in the elderly or those with chronic medical conditions, a pandemic flu could cause serious illness in the young and healthy.

The University's pandemic flu preparations have been ongoing since February. The Danforth Campus and the School of Medicine each have a planning committee staffed by representatives from their own schools or departments, human resources, student services, financial services, facilities and safety.

Planning for a pandemic outbreak is just one component of the University's overall disaster preparedness efforts. Contingency plans for the flu will be incorporated into the University's plans for other emergencies, such as widespread power outages, earthquakes, tornadoes and mass-casualty events.

The University also is coordinating its pandemic flu plans with Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

"If there's one thing we've learned from Hurricane Katrina and 9/11, it is that planning for emergencies is absolutely crucial to being able to respond quickly in a crisis," Backus said. "Our plans need to be kept alive and incorporated into our everyday operations so we're always prepared."

If a pandemic flu strikes St. Louis, it may come in several waves, each lasting about eight weeks with periods of recovery in between. Because other cities are likely to be hit at the same time, the federal response effort likely would be spread thin. This reality underscores the University's need to make its own plans and ensure that faculty, staff and students are informed, Backus said.

For a school like WUSTL, the challenges that would be created by a pandemic illness are immense. That's because the University not only educates students, but also provides their meals, housing and venues for social events.

In addition, it is the largest health-care provider in the St. Louis region and maintains hundreds of research laboratories and complex computer networks. Sustaining essential day-to-day operations when numerous employees are out sick is one of the main issues with which the planning committees are grappling.

On the Danforth Campus, questions range from how to feed students if no large gatherings are allowed to how to manage a quarantine, provide medical care to sick students and decide when to cancel classes.

"Obviously, a chief concern is our students, many of whom do not live close to home," said Alan Glass, M.D., director of the University's Habif Health and Wellness Center and the leader of planning efforts on the Danforth Campus. "We want to protect our students from the flu as much as possible, but if it strikes locally, we want to be sure we're prepared."

At the medical school, a major challenge will be simultaneously providing care to patients with the flu and to those who are flu-free but need emergency care, surgery or ongoing treatment, such as chemotherapy or dialysis.

"To help reduce the spread of the flu within clinics, we are devising ways to keep patients who have the flu carefully isolated from other patients," said Steven J. Lawrence, M.D., an infectious disease specialist who is coordinating the medical school's pandemic planning efforts. "Just as important, we will repeatedly stress that faculty and staff should not come to work if they have the flu. This is crucial to reducing its spread."

Although more information about the University's plans for a pandemic flu will be provided in the months ahead, Backus said each department will be asked to name a point person to coordinate that department's response and to identify essential personnel and services that must be provided during a pandemic.

Each department also will be asked to develop its own communications plan to keep its faculty and staff updated.

The Internet will be a key source for flu information, and the Office of Public Affairs is developing a Web site to keep faculty, staff and students informed. Information will be provided about the extent of a flu outbreak, disruptions in University operations, quarantine information, ways to prevent the spread of the flu and what to do if you're sick.

The University also will provide important flu updates on its emergency information line at 935-9000.

'Tis the season — for flu

BY CAROLINE ARBANAS

If you've been too busy to get a flu shot, you might consider whether you can spare a week or more away from work to fight the flu.

"It's still not too late to get a flu shot," urged Steven J. Lawrence, M.D, assistant professor of medicine. "The shot is simply the most effective protection you can have against the seasonal flu. But it takes about two weeks for the shot to work fully, so don't wait until flu cases begin to pop up before deciding to get one."

Influenza is a highly contagious disease, and people of all ages can get it. In the United States, the disease or its complications kills 36,000 and hospitalizes about 200,000 each year. Contrary to popular belief, the shot does not cause the flu.

Both the Danforth Campus and the School of Medicine have offered flu shots to faculty, staff and students. Both campuses also are conducting awareness campaigns to help reduce the spread of the flu.

"We're telling our staff and students to stay healthy by getting enough sleep, eating well and exercising," said Alan Glass, M.D., director of the University's Habif Health and Wellness Center. "But we're also stressing the importance of hand washing and avoiding people who are ill. These same lessons may help prevent the severity of a pandemic flu, if and when it strikes here."

Flu Facts

Symptoms:

- Low-grade fever
- Headache
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Stuffy nose
- Body aches

If you're sick with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, you do not have the flu.

Best prevention:

- Get a flu shot. They're highly recommended for anyone age 50 and older; those with chronic medical conditions; young children ages 6 months to 5 years; pregnant women; anyone living in a nursing home; or their caregivers.
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water (or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer), especially after using the restroom, blowing your nose, coughing or changing diapers.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

If you get the flu:

- Stay home from work to avoid infecting others.
- Prescription anti-viral medications zanamavir (Relenza) and oseltamivir (Tamiflu) can reduce the duration of the flu and lessen its symptoms, but they must be taken within two days of developing the flu.

MARY BUTKUS

Helping hands Arts & Sciences sophomores Ai-Lin Sui (left) and Christina Hamm help paint a house under construction by Habit For Humanity this fall. Through the group's WUSTL chapter, the students joined other volunteers constructing the St. Louis home for the non-profit organization, which provides affordable housing to low-income families.

Metro pass renewal required

The fall U-Pass, allowing WUSTL community members free use of Metro, the region's public transportation system, will expire Dec. 31. Benefits-eligible employees may request a spring 2007 U-Pass. Full-time students who have completed registration for the spring semester may request a pass beginning Dec. 1.

To apply for a no-charge spring pass, visit the Parking and Transportation Services Web site at *parking.wustl.edu*.

This program, funded by the University, provides benefits-eligible faculty and staff, full-time students and full-time employees of basic service contractors a Universal Metro Pass that allows free boarding of any Metro bus or MetroLink light-rail system train.

New for the spring renewal process is the option of picking up requested passes at a distribution center. The Danforth Campus distribution center will be open 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 11-13 at the Mallinckrodt Student Center. Requests made by Dec. 8 qualify for the express line at the distribution center.

The Medical Campus distribution center will be open 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 4-6 at the Olin Residence Hall gym, 4550 Scott Ave. Requests made by Dec. 1 qualify for the express line.

For more information, call 935-4140.

WUSTL police help 'warm up' St. Louis

The WUSTL Police Department again is assisting the Kurt Warner First Things First Foundation and its annual Warners' Warm-up winter-coat drive.

Through Dec. 3, the WUPD office on Shepley Drive in the South 40 will serve as a drop-off location to donate new or gently used winter coats for disadvantaged St. Louisans.

Those who are unable to drop off coats may call 935-7781 to make pick-up arrangements.

For more information, visit *kurtwarner.org*.

Geologists

Findings could aid in flood control

– from Page 1

Man-made changes to the Missouri River for irrigation, flood control and navigation began in the early 19th century, shortly after the Lewis and Clark journey. However, river discharge volume was not regularly recorded until the 1930s, long after denuding the shore of forests and river channeling with wing dikes had severely impacted the character and ecology of the river.

"No one had looked at records before the 20th century," Ehlmann said. "So we took Lewis and Clark's data, stage (water-level) data from government records published in the late 1800s and modern electronic stage files and did the simplest thing possible to look at the 200-year record."

Because the stage data was recorded relative to something — and the researchers in some cases didn't know what that something was — the pair measured change in height from day to day and change in maximum and minimum annual heights relative to the annual mean. The authors found the increased variability in both measures began around 1900, just as intensive channelization began.

"We now have a composite record for the Missouri River that's almost three times as long as the previous one," Criss said. "The Lewis and Clark data give us a benchmark for the natural condition. We now have a pre-development baseline for the Missouri River."

Ehlmann sees applications for the findings in the near future. "As policy-makers balance different needs in deciding how to manage the river, we hope that this new record will aid in establishing better flood-control techniques and promoting ecosystem restoration," she said. "Making room for the river, at least in some stretches, seems to solve both goals at the same time."

Grant

Funds offer 'first step to finding cancer cures'

– from Page 1

already are known, and a more in-depth search could identify numerous others that determine, among other things, how aggressive a particular tumor is or which drugs might work best to treat it.

The cancer gene sequencing effort is part of The Cancer Genome Atlas, a joint pilot project of the NHGRI and the National Cancer Institute that will initially focus on identifying small changes, such as duplications or deletions of genetic material, in three types of cancer: ovarian, lung and glioblastoma, an aggressive brain tumor.

The new research involves sequencing a patient's tumor DNA and comparing it to a normal DNA sample from the same patient to identify changes that may be important to cancer.

"Cancer at the level of the genome, while complex, can be characterized."

ELAINE MARDIS

"We think that cancer at the level of the genome, while complex, can be characterized," said Elaine Mardis, Ph.D., co-director of the GSC. "Our funding will be directed at a genome-wide understanding of cancer-specific mutations that, for the first time, will enable us to discover and catalog this information as a first step to finding cancer cures."

As part of the grant, the center will continue to refine and improve scientists' understanding of the human genome sequence. WUSTL scientists also will be sequencing the genomes of non-human primates such as the chimpanzee, macaque, orangutan, marmoset and gibbon. Although their genomes closely resemble humans, non-human primates don't get certain diseases common among humans, such as skin cancer and Alzheimer's disease, and the researchers hope clues embedded in the genetic sequence will reveal why.

Over the next four years, the centers in the NHGRI program also will mount a major new effort to gather genetic data faster and less expensively than before.

"When we first started genome sequencing in 1990, it took eight years and more than $50 million to produce the sequence of the roundworm *C. elegans*," Wilson said. "Next year, we will be testing new technology that would allow us to sequence the *C. elegans* genome in two or three days at a cost of $5,000. We are continually working to produce sequences faster, better and less expensively."

The other two sequencing centers funded by the new grant are located at Baylor College of Medicine and the Broad Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University.

Notables

Introducing new faculty members

The following are among the new faculty members at the University. Others will be introduced periodically in this space.

Robert E. Blankenship, Ph.D., joins the departments of Biology and Chemistry in Arts & Sciences as professor. He earned a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley and a bachelor's from Nebraska Wesleyan University. Blankenship spent the past 21 years at Arizona State University and was chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry from 2002-06. His research interests center on the molecular mechanisms of energy storage in photosynthesis. Blankenship and his group investigate this process using an interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes studying the complete range of types of organisms that do photosynthesis, with the goal of discovering the essential aspects of how light energy is stored, as well as elucidating the origin and early evolutionary development of photosynthesis.

Herman Pontzer, Ph.D., joins the Department of Anthropology in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. He earned a doctorate in 2006 from Harvard University and a bachelor's (with highest honors) from Pennsylvania State University in 1999. Herman is interested in linking functional morphology to ecology, and his research uses a combination of modeling and experimental approaches to test hypotheses linking limb design, locomotor performance (especially locomotor energetics) and ranging ecology. He is participating in ongoing excavations at the lower Paleolithic site of Dmanisi in the Republic of Georgia, where fossils dated to 1.8 million years provide evidence of the earliest human ancestors outside of Africa.

Alicia Walker, Ph.D., joins the Department of Art History and Archaeology in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor of medieval art and architecture. She earned a doctorate and master's from Harvard University and a bachelor's from Bryn Mawr College. From 2004-06, she was a Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Art and Architectural History at Columbia University. At WUSTL, Walker will teach courses about Byzantine, medieval Islamic and Western medieval art. Her primary fields of research include cross-cultural artistic interaction in the medieval world from the ninth-13th centuries and gender issues in the art and material culture of Byzantium. She recently completed articles on the material and intellectual culture of divination in medieval Byzantium and the expression of romance culture in works of middle Byzantine courtly art. She is working on a book-length study of Islamic impact on middle Byzantine imperial imagery and is co-editing a volume of essays titled "Negotiating the Secular in Medieval Art."

AAAS elects four WUSTL faculty as fellows

Four faculty members have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific society. The highest honor awarded by AAAS, the rank of fellow is bestowed upon members by their peers in recognition of scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

The WUSTL honorees are:

• **Eugene M. Johnson**, Ph.D., professor of neurology and of molecular biology and pharmacology at the School of Medicine, was elected to the Section on Neuroscience for pioneering work in studies of the nature and function of neurotrophic factors and for service to the neuroscience community. Johnson was cited for distinguished contributions to the identification and characterization of neurotrophic factors, factors that nourish and maintain nervous system cells and could provide new avenues for treatment of a range of neurodegenerative diseases.

• **H. Mark Johnston**, Ph.D., professor of genetics at the medical school, was elected to the Section on Biological Sciences for outstanding contributions to the genetics and genomics of the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, in particular the regulation of sugar utilization. Johnston was cited for distinguished contributions to the complete genetic structure of the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and for using that organism as a model to understand how cells sense the nutrient glucose.

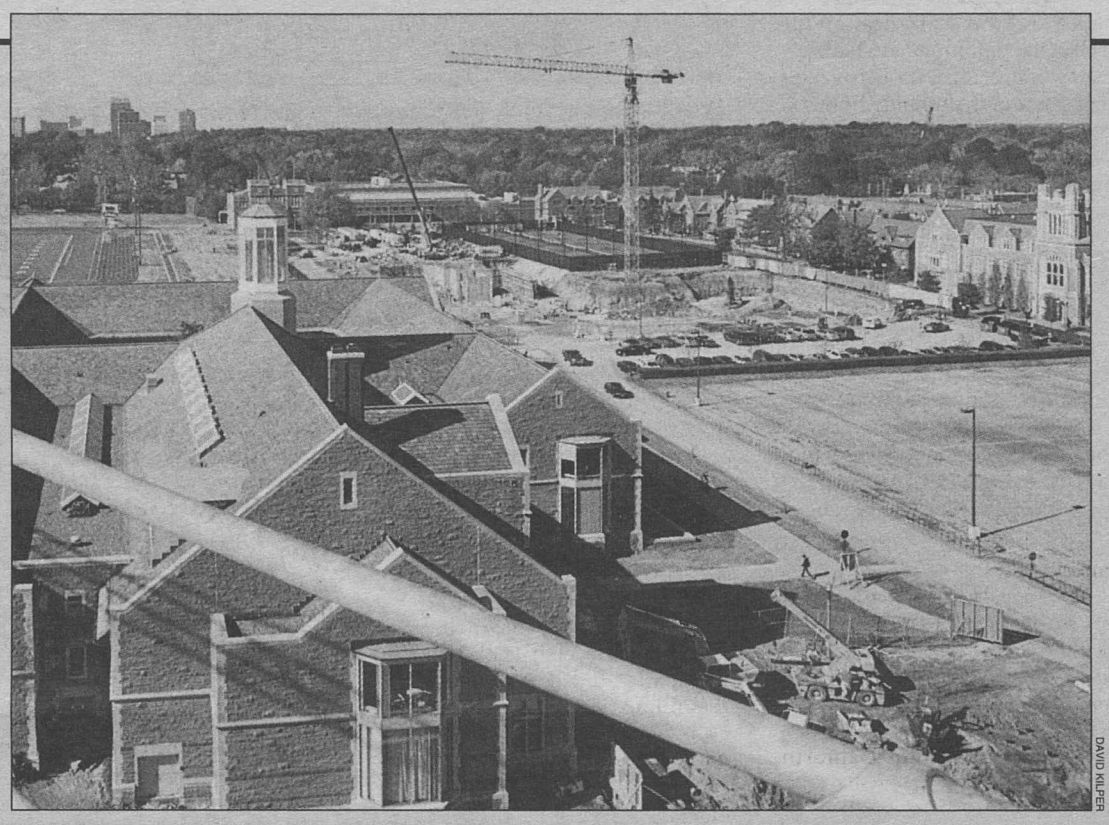
• **William B. McKinnon**, Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, was elected to the Section on Astronomy for distinguished contributions to planetary science, especially for research on the physics and geology of planetary satellites and other small bodies in the solar system. McKinnon's research focuses on the icy satellites of the outer solar system and the physics of impact cratering, concentrating on the origin, structure, evolution and bombardment history of outer planet satellites and Pluto.

• **Alan L. Schwartz**, Ph.D., M.D., the Harriet B. Spoehrer Professor and head of the Department of Pediatrics, professor of molecular biology and pharmacology, and pediatrician-in-chief at St. Louis Children's Hospital, was elected to the Section on Medical Sciences for distinguished contributions to medical science, the education of physician-scientists and advancing the field of child health. Schwartz's laboratory focuses on the cell and molecular biology of intracellular protein targeting and degradation.

The association will present 449 new fellows with an official certificate and a gold and blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin Feb. 17 at the association's annual meeting in San Francisco.

This year's fellows also were announced in the Nov. 24 edition of the journal *Science*, published by AAAS.

An international non-profit organization, AAAS is dedicated to advancing science around the world by serving as an educator, leader, spokesperson and professional association. Founded in 1848, the association includes some 262 affiliated societies and academies of science serving 10 million individuals.



DAVID KILPER

It's lonely at the top The view from atop a tower crane shows construction underway on the building to be shared by Arts & Sciences and the School of Law, located east of the Athletic Complex and south of the law school. The four-story building will occupy about 130,000 gross square feet. Classrooms to be shared by Arts & Sciences and the law school will include six 40-seat rooms with tables and chairs, two 40-seat rooms with tablet armchairs, two 60-seat rooms with tablet armchairs, one 100-seat tiered lecture hall and two 30-seat seminar rooms. Law classrooms will include two 45-seat rooms — one with tiered seating and one with loose tables and chairs — and a 25-seat seminar room. Occupancy should take place in about two years.

Black Rep giveaway deadline is Dec. 1

The deadline to register for a chance to win one of 30 season PassPorts to The Black Rep is Dec. 1. The University's Diversity Initiative is giving away the passes to faculty and staff in celebration of The Rep's 30th season. Each PassPort consists of five ticket vouchers redeemable at any time during the 2007 season.

Winners will be selected in a random drawing. To register, visit *aisweb.wustl.edu/Chancellor/BlackRep.nsf/form?OpenForm*.

Obituary

Karl, nationally renowned internist, 91

Michael M. Karl, M.D., widely recognized locally and nationally as one of the country's outstanding general internists, died Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2006, at his home in Richmond Heights, Mo. He was 91.

Karl, professor of clinical medicine, was co-founder with I. Jerome Flance, M.D., of the Maryland Medical Group, where he practiced medicine in St. Louis for almost 50 years. He introduced Missouri's first needle biopsy of the liver in 1946.

Karl was one of few general internists to become a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He was a master of the American College of Physicians (ACP), governor of the ACP for the State of Missouri and received the ACP Laureate Award in 1988.

President Jimmy Carter appointed Karl to the national advisory committee of the White House Conference on the Family from 1978-1980, where he was among the first to call for family leave protections for working parents. Active in national health policy and medical education, he worked for the establishment of national health insurance for all people regardless of their capacity to pay. In St. Louis, he was the co-organizer of one of the first health services for the poor, the Jeff-Vander-Lou Medical Clinic.

Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of the School of Medicine, called Karl "one of the most important figures in medicine over the past 50 years."

He was "the finest physician and greatest human being I have ever known," said Kenneth M. Ludmerer, M.D., professor of medicine and of history. "He cared deeply about people and the world we live in. He was a living embodiment of the finest ideals of medicine."

Karl

Chancellor Emeritus and Life Trustee William H. Danforth, M.D., said, "Mike Karl was my teacher. He was beloved and respected by colleagues and patients alike. He was 'the physician's physician' — the person we fellow physicians called on to care for our loved ones."

Karl was "a giant in the medical community of St. Louis," said Kenneth S. Polonsky, M.D., the Adolphus Busch Professor and head of the Department of Internal Medicine and professor of cell biology and physiology. "He achieved great distinction as a master clinician. Despite all the recognition he received locally and nationally, he remained modest and never lost sight of the fact that the primary role of the physician is to provide the highest quality of care to patients."

Karl repeatedly was honored for his contributions to medicine. He was named Most Distinguished Internist by the Osler Society in 1964 and honored with the Ralph O. Claypoole Sr. Memorial Award for Distinguished Practice in Internal Medicine in 1990.

He was proudest, however, of his numerous teaching awards. Karl was known as an outstanding teacher with the highest ethical standards. "He led and inspired a generation of young doctors by his example," said Philip E. Cryer, M.D., the Irene E. and Michael M. Karl Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism at the medical school.

Karl was born in 1915 in Milwaukee. In 1938, he graduated summa cum laude in medicine at the University of Louisville. In 1941, Karl married his high-school sweetheart, Irene E. Karl, Ph.D., who became one of the first female biochemists in the United States. She died in July.

The Karls were the first married couple at WUSTL to be honored with a named professorship, which was set up in 1983 by gifts from friends and patients. The Michael and Irene Karl Lectureship, part of the Masters in Medicine series, also honors them.

In recognition of Karl's well-known love of reading, a Michael M. Karl Book Award is given annually at the American College of Physicians and at the medical school commencement. The Flance-Karl Award also is presented by the American Surgical Association to a surgeon in the United States who has made a seminal contribution in basic laboratory research.

A philanthropist active in the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, a longtime supporter of the arts and a promoter of tolerance, Karl was given the National Recognition Award of the Year by the National Conference of Christians and Jews in 1985.

Karl is survived by his two daughters, Bonnie Karl Staffier and Terry Karl; a sister, Minnie Friedman of Greenwich, Conn.; and three grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Michael M. Karl Fund for Interest Free Student Loans at the School of Medicine, 660 South Euclid, St. Louis, Mo., 63110.

Washington People

Opening eyes to a broader world

Priscilla Stone helps students gain understanding through study abroad

BY NEIL SCHOENHERR

DAVID KILPER

Priscilla Stone, Ph.D. (left), director of Overseas and Undergraduate Programs for International and Area Studies, chats in her office with assistant Toni Loomis. "We are lucky to have her in a position of leadership," colleague James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., says of Stone. "She is a major reason for our success in international programs at the University."

Washington University sends more than 500 students to study abroad at 50 different worldwide locations each year. If you think planning an itinerary and packing bags for a semester in London would be tough, try coordinating all of those trips.

That's where Priscilla Stone comes in.

Stone, Ph.D., is director of Overseas and Undergraduate Programs for International and Area Studies in Arts & Sciences. In addition to her duties organizing study abroad programs for so many students, she also runs the undergraduate major in International and Area Studies and is an adjunct associate professor of sociocultural anthropology in Arts & Sciences.

Educated as an anthropologist, Stone long has had a passion for travel, having done her dissertation work in Nigeria. Turns out, that passion is shared by many students, as well.

"I think students realize we are living in a globalized world, and familiarity with other cultures, languages and systems of government will be an integral part of their lives and their careers," Stone says. "Getting a head start on that by studying abroad during the undergraduate years seems very compelling to many students. It can be just an amazing experience for students. We talk often about it being a life-changing experience, in fact."

Her department is undergoing a self-study, revealing trends in student travel abroad. "It's interesting to find out that more and more of the students going abroad are social science majors," Stone says. "The old model was that language majors always went abroad. And they still are. But the biggest single major we send abroad today is psychology majors going to Australia and the United Kingdom, primarily. It's very interesting to watch those trends develop."

Stone credits her staff with helping to make the growth in international studies possible.

"About 10 years ago, the University acknowledged the importance of an experience abroad as part of an undergraduate education," says Kathy Steiner-Lang, director of the Office for International Students and Scholars.

"Priscilla has worked hard to develop such opportunities for Arts & Sciences undergraduates," Steiner-Lang continues. "The number of students studying abroad has greatly increased under her leadership, which has brought a broader international perspective to the campus."

After earning a doctoral degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona in 1988, Stone and her husband, Glenn Stone, Ph.D., professor of sociocultural anthropology and environmental studies in Arts & Sciences, moved to New York, where Priscilla accepted a position as director of the Africa program with the Social Science Research Council.

The couple moved to St. Louis in 1995, and Stone started as visiting professor of anthropology. Stone is an economic and ecological anthropologist whose primary focus is African agrarian systems. She is interested in agricultural labor and its organization within households and within communities, with a special focus on division of labor by gender.

While at the University, she has done field research in Ethiopia and has studied the effects of globalization on local economies. Her most recent article, published this year in a special issue of the *Journal of Development Studies*, is titled "Moving in Place: Drought and Poverty Dynamics in South Wollo, Ethiopia."

After working for one year as a visiting professor, Stone was hired as coordinator of the African studies program in African and African American Studies in Arts & Sciences. While doing that, she began working part-time in International Studies, and that eventually grew into a full-time position.

Students are 'a joy'

Stone enjoys her job, helping students and faculty members understand the study abroad programs the University has to offer.

"Working with students is such a joy," she says. "We have such great students here. I see them as they first walk in the door as freshmen with all this curiosity and intelligence. Then I get to work with them for four years as they travel abroad, pick a major or apply for a Fulbright scholarship. Watching them mature and grow into their own interests is very gratifying, and I think this field of bringing the world to them is quite rewarding."

"Priscilla has been behind many of the impressive developments we have witnessed over the past few years in Overseas Studies and the International and Area Studies major. Both of these programs have experienced tremendous growth, much of which would not have happened without Priscilla's intelligence, foresight and strong leadership."

JAMES V. WERTSCH

She also enjoys running the undergraduate major in International and Area Studies, an interdisciplinary major that allows students to develop a broad understanding of the world and explore the diversity and richness of other cultures. The major offers several tracks for in-depth exploration of key international issues and world areas.

"Priscilla has been behind many of the impressive developments we have witnessed over the past few years in Overseas Studies and the International and Area Studies major," says James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of International and Area Studies and director of the McDonnell International Scholars Academy. "Both of these programs have experienced tremendous growth, much of which would not have happened without Priscilla's intelligence, foresight and strong leadership. Many students have benefited from her teaching, and others have benefited from the programmatic innovations she has created. We are lucky to have her in a position of leadership. She is a major reason for our success in international programs at the University."

Stone attributes growth in the undergraduate major to students' desire to be part of the global world.

"With the place of America now on the world stage, students are very aware of our connection to the rest of the world," Stone says. "They are thinking about the issues of the day. They want a context to be able to understand things like the war in Iraq."

The desire to travel forms a common thread among students in the major, Stone says.

"Students who major in international studies are very passionate to be abroad," she says. "After graduation, many will join the Peace Corps, travel on a Fulbright scholarship or teach English abroad. Many of them are looking for immediate opportunities to live abroad while they are not tied down by family obligations."

Stone appreciates not only the opportunity to work with students, but also the opportunities provided by the University community.

"I think Washington University is a great place to work," she says. "My own path demonstrates that in many ways. I came here on a visiting appointment. Through persistence and enthusiasm, I was able to work on important projects. If you have ideas, this setting is a great place to make them happen. It's a place where you are rewarded for being entrepreneurial, and the resources and support are available to allow you to do things you don't hear about so much at other institutions. There is an openness and flexibility here that I really appreciate."

But it is the students that inspire her most. Throughout more than a decade on campus, Stone has reveled in their motivation. "That makes it so much easier when you don't have to battle against apathy," she says. "These kids are highly motivated to succeed."

COURTESY PHOTO

Priscilla and Glenn Stone enjoy outdoor time with their children, Jordan and Abigail.

Priscilla Stone

Title: Director of Overseas and Undergraduate Programs for International and Area Studies in Arts & Sciences

Family: Husband Glenn Stone, Ph.D., professor of sociocultural anthropology and environmental studies in Arts & Sciences, and children Abigail, a freshman at Columbia University, and Jordan, a senior at John Burroughs High School in St. Louis

Hobby: Working on her home and garden